

THE RICHMOND DISPATCH.

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WEDNESDAY...AUGUST 23, 1899.

Correspondents should not send us speculations, predictions, or estimates as to the strength of candidates for the United States senatorship. What we desire is impartial reports of the proceedings of county and city committees and of other public meetings, and results of primaries or conventions.

TALKING TOO MUCH.

In commenting on the report that the government has determined to send some dynamite guns to the Philippines, our esteemed Imperialist contemporary, the Ohio State Journal, says the idea is a good one. A dynamite gun, continues the Journal, is enough to frighten the wits out of a white man, let alone a lot of savages, and when these hear one of the shells explode they will imagine that we have sent over some home-made earthquakes.

In characterizing our erstwhile allies in the far East as a lot of savages, and in attempting to justify resort to the most extreme measures in dealing with them, the Journal aligns itself with other administration organs and with Governor Roosevelt. The New York hero of San Juan hill and of the round robin, has, it will be remembered, been especially vehement in denouncing the Philippines as savages and in supporting the policy of treating them as such.

But Professor Schurman, the chief engineer of the McKinley diplomatic "benevolent assimilation" machinery, who has just returned from the Philippines, is quoted as saying that we must deal gently with the Philippines; that they are entitled to "sympathetic consideration"; that the educated Filipino is the equal of any other civilized man in the world; that he has many pleasing traits; that he is a good neighbor, and that his home life is exemplary. In short, taken by and through, the picture Professor Schurman draws of our "new wards," or our prospective "new wards," corresponds with that drawn by the administration organs in the initial stages of our Philippine venture, and when it was sought to produce the impression that the only object of military occupation of the islands was to free the "gentle, confiding natives" from the cruel Spanish yoke. Before we broke faith with Aguinaldo and forced him to give us an excuse for entering upon a war of subjugation, this picture was kept constantly before the public.

But Professor Schurman is not the only man who evidently thinks the original picture was the correct one. On August 22, 1898, Admiral Dewey wrote to the Secretary of the Navy that in a telegram dated August 20, he expressed the opinion that "these people (the Filipinos) are far superior in their intelligence and more capable of self-government than the natives of Cuba, and I am familiar with both races." And in his letter he added that "further intercourse with them" had confirmed him in his opinion. Now the Admiral is quoted as having said at Naples that he is fully convinced that the Filipinos are "capable of governing themselves"; that they "have all qualifications for it"; and that "the only way to settle the insurrection and assure property to the archipelago is to concede self-government to the inhabitants." But that is not all. He is said to have remarked in the same interview: "The islands are at this moment blockaded by a fleet, and war reigns in the interior. This abnormal state of things should cease. * * * I should like to see violence at once put a stop to."

When we recall the friction between General Otis and the Philippines Commission during the latter's stay in and around Manila, it becomes clear that Professor Schurman and Admiral Dewey not only agree as to the character of the Filipinos, but in republishing an unnecessary harsh policy of the administration.

Whether the character testimony of the two distinguished witnesses is to be implicitly relied upon, will, of course, be a question in a great many minds. Do they never so sincere, and we do not doubt their sincerity, the fact remains that the Filipinos with whom they were "shown constitute but a small part of the population of the islands, and practically represent only one of the racial divisions of the group. We are told by those who have explored the archipelago as far as

that has been practicable, that for the rest the inhabitants grade down from the semi-savagery to absolute savagery and barbarism. But that apart, the point is, that considering the growing unpopularity of the Philippine war, the opinions of men of the stamp of Dewey and Schurman are calculated to discredit seriously the administration's whole course respecting the islands. It, therefore, follows that from Mr. McKinley's standpoint it might be wise to muzzle Professor Schurman and discipline Dewey. Both are talking too much for the interest of the administration.

FORESTRY.
The Division of Forestry of the Department of Agriculture will contribute to the year book of the department a short history of forestry in the United States, and "also an account of the efforts of private land-owners to apply the principles of forestry." The division recognizes that much more has been done in this country in forestry work than is generally supposed, for in a circular it has just sent out it says:

"Considerable amount of work has been done under the supervision of experts in the technical forestry, there is, nevertheless, abundant evidence to show that owners of woodlands have frequently employed conservative methods in handling their wood crops and have otherwise shown the desire and the ability to preserve the forest without ceasing to use it, and that farmers in the treeless districts, and others, have greatly improved the agricultural resources of their lands by tree-planting."

The division also recognizes that wherever private owners have made the effort to utilize the merchantable timber on their woodland without injuring its productive power, and to establish new forests, there has been the intention of forestry, and that while the methods used may have been imperfect, they have tended toward economic forest management so far as their object was the continued use of the land for producing forests. Usually, adds the circular, there are details in which these methods could have been improved, yet in many cases the systems of the trained forester would be but modifications of those already used by the lumberman or the farmer. Furthermore, says the circular, the tree planter is entitled to similar recognition, for whenever the planter has chosen his trees with intelligence and so succeeded in producing a useful plantation, there has been the real spirit of forestry.

The division is anxious to embody in its contribution to the Year Book the experience of all who have been doing forestry work, both in the line of tree-planting and economic timber cutting, in order that it may utilize any suggestions it may receive and make others. To that end it encloses in the circular a printed card, the return of which requires no stamp, and to the address of the circular says:

"In case you have done any work along the lines of forestry, you are earnestly requested to indicate its nature by underlining the appropriate words on the card, to fill in your name and address on the blank lines, and promptly to mail the reply to the division; the division will then mail you a list of questions prepared to assist you in making a statement of the details of the work. If you know of any other men who have practiced forestry, kindly send their names and addresses."

That forest preservation by both systems conducive thereto—economic cutting and replanting—is becoming a vital matter all over the country, there is no question. It is a vital matter not only in its bearing upon the lumber supply, but upon the prevention of freshets in the streams. It strikes us, therefore, that the contribution promises to be an exceedingly valuable work. The scheme, if carried out, cannot but stimulate the true spirit of forestry.

A cable dispatch anent the rioting in Paris Sunday stated that a lamentable feature of the affair was that it would be regarded as a pro-Dreyfus demonstration and react greatly to the detriment of the chances of acquittal.

In commenting on this New York Times says:

"A street demonstration, whether it be in favor of the accused man or against him, is not evidence either direct or presumptive. It does not prove anything except that there are some very excitable persons among the French, and that can hardly be said to be a new discovery. It certainly is not the fault of Dreyfus, though he may be the cause of it. An unprejudiced American would as soon lay it at the door of the general staff as at that of the prisoner."

As a matter of fact, it does not take excessive credulity to believe that the general staff would not hesitate to foment a riot, provided such a demonstration could be depended upon to injure Dreyfus. The stirring up of a riot would be no worse than some of the crimes that gang has committed in order to compass the ruin of Dreyfus and "save the honor of the army"—otherwise, the skins of Mercer, Gonse, Billot, and their co-conspirators.

Those who have visited the Capitol at Washington will remember that the Brumidi frescoes in the rotunda of the building, which are intended to represent the progress of the United States, are unfinished. There is a vacant panel, and the New York Journal proposes that this be filled with a representation of the battle of Manila. The Philadelphia Press says, however, with reference to the proposition that the Brumidi frescoes are an "art monstrosity" that has already "too long disfigured the drum of the dome." It continues as follows, and correctly, we believe:

"There is no dispute over this among people of taste. The Brumidi frescoes are artistic nightmares, conceived in hideousness, and executed in a woodenness only to be found equally reflected in the sister art of the cigar-store Indian. They were when first begun, bad enough in the era of bad taste of the early seventies, but confronted with the glories of American decorative art enshrined in the new congressional library they are impossible. To use Admiral Dewey's name as a means of securing the completion of these unworthy works of art would be a national misfortune, for the aesthetic point of view, they should be erased."

Diphtheria is still spreading in Baltimore. Sixteen new cases were reported to the Health Department Monday. With reference to municipal dealing with the disease there, the American says:

"Dr. Jones, the Health Commissioner, purchased a large quantity of antitoxine with a portion of the \$100,000 at his disposal last Saturday by the Board of Estimates, and sent out two squads of inspectors, one in charge of Dr. Evert and the other in charge of Dr. Fye. The inspectors visited the neighborhoods in the infected districts, took cultures from the throats of all the children, and gave immunizing doses of antitoxine to the members of every afflicted household. Dr. Jones accompanied the physicians on the tour."

Colonel Ingersoll left less than \$100,000, it appears. And he eschewed lying up treasure in the other world, too.

MERCER AND THE PRESS.

There was no reason for surprise at General Mercer's charge that the foreign newspapers had been misled by a Dreyfus syndicate to support the cause of the prisoner. The charge was in keeping with his mendacious performance all through the prosecution of Dreyfus. It was but another exhibition of his desperation. The foreign newspapers, by telling the truth, have been steadily weaving around Mercer a network of evidence that he is the blackest one of the whole gang of conspirators implicated in the crime for which an innocent man was made to suffer. The foreign papers have practically convicted him of having been the guiding spirit of the Eterhazys, the Paty de Clams, the Henrys, and all the other subordinate tools and scoundrels in the miserable, tragic, disgraceful, atrocious business. They have exposed him as the representative falsifier and perjurer of the general staff.

Whatever may be the fate of Dreyfus, the foreign papers have justly pilloried Mercer in the eyes of the world, and stamped his name with everlasting odium. And it is not so certain that France will not yet bring him to justice. More than once that outcome has been hinted at, and it is understood that Labori, who is well enough to be again in court, proposes having him recalled. A few days ago Demange virtually forced from Mercer a confession that he had wilfully lied, and it was then stated that if Dreyfus's counsel were permitted to "press the point," the witness's arrest would follow. The hope and the prospect are that Labori will find a way to press, not only the particular point in question, but others on which Mercer set a trap for himself.

It is clear that owing to the enforced absence of Labori from the trial, the defence has not played its strongest cards yet, while on the other hand each day's proceedings of the court have made it all the more manifest that the game of the prosecution and persecution has been fully disclosed. That game is unsupported charges and malevolent distillations against the prisoner. And one by one these have been picked to pieces by witnesses for the defence and fair-minded newspapers.

Oh, no! there is no reason to be surprised at Mercer's charge against the foreign newspapers. He is in desperate straits, and is capable of any crime and any act of idiosyncrasy in his efforts to get himself out of them. Every fact and every influence that bring Dreyfus nearer to vindication sweeps Mercer and his co-conspirators of the general staff nearer to deserved disgrace, and further into the shadow of the sword of retributive justice.

SUGAR WAR IS ON AFRESH.

American Makes a Big Cut and the Arbuckle Goes Still Lower.

(New York Times, 22d.)
The war between the American Sugar Refining Company and its competitors unexpectedly broke out anew yesterday, and before the day was out developed into a decidedly interesting light, which promises to grow more bitter with time.

The American Company started in by reducing the prices of all grades of refined sugar, excepting No. XXXX, 3-16 cent per pound. The other refining companies promptly met the reduction, and within a very short time the Arbuckle Company lowered the price still further by 1-16 cent per pound, making a total reduction of 1/4 cent per pound within a few hours. This latter reduction, which, it is understood, is only for prompt delivery without guarantee, was not met either by the American or by the other companies, but it was intimated last evening that when business opened this morning it would be found that all the companies had met the reduction.

It was stated in some quarters that it was not unlikely that the recent visit of the western wholesale grocers, who asked the American Sugar Company to enforce the factor agreement, had something to do with the unexpected reduction in price. This, however, was not generally credited. Speaking of the situation, James H. Post, of B. H. Howell, Son & Co., who represent the Molasses Refining Company, said:

"It seems to me that the real reason for the cut by the American Company is to make the business as unprofitable as possible. In my opinion, however, the cut will not result in a loss to the American Company, but it will result in a loss to the other companies. That the cut by the American Company today took all the independent companies by surprise, we must admit. So far as we are concerned, we do not see anything to warrant the cut."

A Wall-street bulletin quoted a sugar broker as follows: "The American Sugar Refining Company was informed that salesmen of the New York Refinery (Dreyfus) had been offering sugar in the West and in this city at 5 1/2 cents, so they at once cut the price 1/2 cent at the opening of business Monday. Thereupon Arbuckle made a further cut of 1-16, making the price 5 1/4 cents for prompt delivery without guarantee. In this, we think, they are playing into the hands of the trust."

"This reopening of the war has greatly demoralized business. Of course the reductions by all the refineries will result in the undervalued portion of old contracts, under the guarantee to January 1, 1899, but there is no disposition to enter new contracts under present conditions. Orders for prompt delivery should be made at 5 1/2 cents, instead of to the others at 5 1/4 cents. We fear that all the old bitterness will be revived."

OTIS DICTATES PRESS DISPATCHES MAGNIFYING AMERICAN SUCCESS.

MANILA, August 19, via HONGKONG, August 22.—The Filipino rebels appear to retain much more of a fighting spirit than might be expected after their recent San Fernando experiences and General Lawton's drubbing in the south.

After giving up San Fernando, with a feeble struggle, they entrenched themselves at Angeles, working for several days and impressing non-combatants into the work, thus saving the armed men for the fighting. They engaged Lieutenant Colonel Smith's regiment and the artillery warmly for four hours, making one of the most stubborn resistances of the campaign, and the Americans are indebted to the untold heroism and manhood of the Filipinos, as well as to their own strategy, for their small loss.

NEITHER SCATTERED NOR DEMORALIZED.
In the province of Cavite, where it was supposed the rebels had been scattered and demoralized, beyond recuperation, they have assembled an army of several thousand men, distributed among the important towns from the lake to the bay. After the San Fernando engagement the rebels attempted to deter the Americans from a further advance by threatening the railroad communications. Several hundred of General Pio del Pilar's men crossed the Rio Grande, between the American outpost towns, and threatened the railroad, and other places, during Saturday and Monday nights, smaller bands tried to tear up the railroad tracks at several points between Baguio and Malolos. Reinforcements of American troops, however, were sent along, and the rebels were driven back to San Fernando, while the forces at Baguio and Quingua sallied out

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against General Pio del Pilar's men and the rebels were easily driven away.

In brushes between these Filipino and the Americans during three days the Americans lost several men, while the Filipino loss was heavy.

OTIS DICTATES THE NEWS.
Of those operations the Associated Press correspondent was permitted to send only an inadequate dispatch, dictated verbatim by Major-General Otis. The censor writes stereotyped official phrases and adjectives held by the rebels against American operations and to minimize the opposition. General Otis says newspapers are not public institutions, but private enterprises, and the correspondents are only here on sufferance.

All reports from the rebel territory agree that the severity of the fight is increasing, and that the rebel commanders at Aparri and other points refuse to obey Aguinaldo's order in regard to closing the ports. The rebels are said to be sending ships and say that any ship bringing stores will be welcomed. Several ships from Manila are now at such ports. Hundreds of people come into Manila daily, and return to the rebel lines with food and other commodities. The guards stationed along one road reported that 5,000 persons passed through the lines in three days, and that forty-five tons of rice was carried out in small parcels on the same road in ten days. Much of the rice undoubtedly goes to add the rebels, but the authorities permit this traffic from motives of charity towards the women and children, who are undoubtedly suffering.

MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENTS.
General MacArthur is establishing municipal governments in the villages north of Manila.

The Mayor of Balitang, the first town where General Lawton established the same rule, who was supposed to be one of the most friendly and trustworthy of the natives, has been placed in jail, charged with arranging with the rebels for an attack on the town.

The American troops have been withdrawn from all that part of the country, which was half-cleared of rebels in the expedition of the Americans in June last. The rebels have returned to San Mateo, which was abandoned for the third time after its recent capture.

AMMUNITION DEFECTIVE.

It is alleged that more than half the howitzer ammunition during the fight at Angeles was defective, and failed to explode.

CHANGES HER MIND AT THE ALTAR.

Delaware Girl Says She Is Too Young to Wed.
WILMINGTON, DEL., August 22.—"I am too young to get married," was the abrupt way Miss Annie Gott ended a proposed marriage ceremony at Woodside Sunday night, and disappointed the prospective groom, Harry Anderson, of Denver, Col.

The Gott home was filled with friends and relatives, and the bride party had entered the parlor, where the minister was waiting to tie the nuptial knot, Miss Gott was sitting in her wedding gown, and just as everybody was expecting the ceremony to proceed Miss Gott exclaimed:

"I am too young and too pretty to be a married woman, and I won't get married, either."

Confusion reigned for a moment, and Anderson pleaded with her to change her mind. She was firm, however, and refused to do so.

Anderson came all the way from Denver to marry Miss Gott, and the affair had been protracted him. He left for the West yesterday.

MALARIAL MOSQUITO FOUND.

British Expedition Discovers the Insect in Sierra Leone.
LIVERPOOL, August 22.—Major Ross, the head of the malarial expedition sent out by the Liverpool School of Tropical Diseases, called yesterday from Sierra Leone: "The malarial mosquito has been found."

The Mayor went out to West Africa on the theory that malaria is disseminated by the swamp-frequenting mosquito.

The British Government will be asked to send a scientific force to work in conjunction with Major Ross.

\$100,000 for damages alleged to have been sustained in loss of business since Judge Wallace, of the United States Circuit Court, gave a decision in May, 1898, favorable to the N. York company, dismissing charges of infringement preferred by the Westinghouse Company.

This suit is also aimed individually at George Westinghouse, Jr., president of the Westinghouse Company, but in the absence of Mr. Westinghouse from the city yesterday Paul D. Cravath, attorney for the company, is said to have agreed to accept service.

A GOOD PHYSICIAN GONE.

Death of Dr. Charles Wesley Walker in Chase City?

CHASE CITY, VA., August 22.—(Special.)—Dr. Charles Wesley Walker, a well-known and prominent physician here, died yesterday afternoon. His illness was of brief duration.

Dr. Walker was an ardent Confederate, and his loyalty to the cause never abated as time passed away. The evening he was taken sick he was in the office of the writer, and made a contribution for the completion of the Confederate monument at Boydton, saying, "I would give anything for the purpose if it was the last act of my life." And it was probably the last thing he ever did, as his fatal malady hastened his early death. He was a surgeon in the army, took part in the Battle of Gettysburg, in April, 1863, and when released returned to his native county of Mecklenburg and commenced anew the struggles of life, and accumulated a handsome competency. To his friends he was true, frank, and genial. As a citizen he was honorable and prompt in his obligations. As a physician, none will deplore his loss more than the poor and afflicted, to whom he often rendered acts of kindness and gratitude. He was in his 70th year, and leaves a widow, but no descendants. He was a member of the Methodist Church.

Mr. Samuel Pettus Couch, another worthy and popular citizen, in this vicinity, died last night, after a protracted illness. He was also a Confederate soldier, and about 60 years old. He was at one time proprietor of the City Hotel here, and enjoyed an extensive acquaintance. His widow, the daughter of the late Colonel C. C. Haskins, of Boydton, survives him, with several children.

BAPTISTS IN SESSION.

Blue Ridge Association—Clearance Kerfoot Losses an Eye.

MARTINSVILLE, VA., August 22.—(Special.)—The Blue Ridge Baptist Association met at the Broad-Street Baptist church here, to-day. Delegates from Floyd, Carroll, Patrick, Franklin, and Henry counties are in attendance. Rev. J. Lee Taylor, of Spencer, is moderator, and Rev. J. W. Wade, of Albemarle, Franklinton county, is clerk and treasurer.

The opening sermon was preached by Rev. J. W. Wade this morning to a large and appreciative audience. Among the visiting brethren are Professor F. W. Boatwright, of Richmond College; Professor Charles L. Cooke, of Hollins Institute; Rev. J. P. Dickinson, of Albemarle; Rev. J. P. P. of the Valley Association; Professor Handy, of Albemarle Institute, Roanoke, and Rev. M. L. Wood, of the Augusta organization. The association will be in session until Tuesday.

Clearance Kerfoot, eldest son of Dr. C. P. Kerfoot, and a very promising young man, had the shocking misfortune to lose his left eye to-day while working the rock in a quarry. A small stone fell on one of the bands of the crusher and was jerked into his eye, cutting it in half. Dr. C. P. Smith rendered the necessary medical attention, and young Kerfoot is doing well, as could be expected, considering the nature of the wound.

HEARD IN GLOUCESTER.

The Religious Services Last Week—Personal Points.

ZANONI, GLOUCESTER COUNTY, August 22.—(Special.)—The services held at Ware church and court-house during the past week by Rev. John Mathews, the English evangelist, ended at the latter place Sunday night, when an unusually large congregation was present. It is a privilege to have one whose earnestness and eloquence are so pronounced. Mr. Mathews goes now to Lancaster, thence to Albemarle county and Alexandria, after which he will sail for England, where he will complete his studies at Oxford.

Dr. William P. Jones is visiting in Fauquier county, but may return home during the week.

Miss Margaret Cannon is the guest of Miss Georgia Seawell, at Riverside. Miss Sally Reed Anderson is at Newstead.

Rev. Thomas Dixon has taken possession of Elmington, which place on North river he recently purchased.

Mrs. Horace W. Jones, of Newport News, has been visiting Mrs. Mary Jones at Clermont.

LYNCHBURG.

Death of a Druggist—Ill in Porto Rico.

LYNCHBURG, VA., August 22.—(Special.)—William M. Strother, president of the Strother Drug Company, died this morning, aged 47 years. He was a son of the late Dr. W. A. Strother, and practically the originator of the wholesale drug business in Lynchburg.

A telegram was received to-day from Surgeon-General Wyman, of the United States Hospital Marine Service, at Washington, announcing the illness at Ponce, Porto Rico, with typhoid-fever, of Dr. Claude H. Lavinder, of this city. Dr. Lavinder is an assistant surgeon in the United States army, and has been located in Porto Rico since the war with Spain.

Sad Death in Alexandria.

ALEXANDRIA, VA., August 22.—(Special.)—John H. Greene, a prominent criminal lawyer and former councilman of this city, died at an early hour this morning. Mr. Greene's sudden death was a surprise and shock to the community. It was a sad sequel to a distressing occurrence yesterday, when in a fit of temporary insanity Mr. Greene made an attempt to take his wife's life with a hatchet. The funeral of Mr. Greene will probably take place from his residence, on upper King street, Thursday morning.

Still More Counterfeiting.

The secret service has just unearthed another batch of counterfeit bills, and secured a large quantity of bogus bills, which are so cleverly executed that the average person is unable to detect them. The bills are of various denominations, and are being circulated in the city. The authorities are working hard to bring the counterfeiters to justice.

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